The Reserve Bank of India oversee the Scheme to ensure that guidelines issued by it are being adhered to by the public sector banks. The banks are also required to ensure that the targets assigned to them for lending under DRI Scheme are met and the persons belonging to the weaker sections of the society, for whom the Scheme has been designed, are able to avail of the benefits under the scheme.

Posts of Chairman and Managing Director in Public Sector Undertakings held by I.A.S. Officers

2448. DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what are the names of public sector undertakings in which the top posts like that of Chairman and Managing Director are held by persons from I.A.S. Cadre and for how long they are holding of these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): According to available information the posts of Managing Director, Food Corporation of India and Managing Director, North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation are held by officers from IAS cadre on deputation basis and they are holding these posts from 16-8-1983 and 15-12-1981 respectively.

Withdrawal of Excise Duty on Ornaments

2449. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the excise duty on ornaments have recently been withdrawn by Government; and

(b) if so, what are reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Ornaments made of gold or silver manufactured by goldsmiths or silversmiths were already exempt *inter alia*, if in their manufacture, no power is used. By a notification dated 1-8-1985 this exemption has been made unconditional.

(b) The latest decision will help large scale manufacture of ornaments and modernisation of the small scale units, preparing these units for greater participation in the field of exports.

Unlicensed Cultivation of Opium

2450. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring forward a legislation to ban unlicensed cultivation of opium in the country, and

(b) if not, how do Government propose to curb illegal cultivation of opium and to deal with the drug traffickers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Cultivation of opium is permitted in notified tracts in the three poppy growing states, names—Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan on the authority of licences issued in this behalf. Unlicensed cultivation of opium poppy is an offence under the relevant Narcotic Laws. A draft comprehensive legislation on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances *inter alia* providing deterrent punishment for drug offences, including offences relating to unlicensed cultivation of opium poppy is at an advanced stage of finalisation for introduction in Parliament.

Additional Credit Facilities by Banks to Customers

2451. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(b) if so, what are the details in this Reserve Bank had advised banks not to grant additional credit facilities to a customer already having credit limits with another bank; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?